

NOTES ON LAMPROSOMATINAE (Chrysomelidae)

by F. MONRÓS¹

The present subfamily must be spelled Lamprosomatinae, not Lamprosominae. The name derives from the greek words *lampros* (brilliant- and *soma* (body); the subfamily ending -inae must be added to the genitive *somatos*.

Neochlamysini *new tribe*

Type genus: *Neochlamys* Jacoby

Scutellum large, triangular and equilateral. Elytral punctures not regularly arranged. Anal border of last abdominal segment without modifications. Eyes entire. Claws simple and free.

The present tribe, restricted to South Africa, includes the genera *Neochlamys* and *Pseudolychnophaes*, which I consider the more primitive within the subfamily Lamprosomatinae.

The tribe *Sphaerocharini* with the only Neotropical genus *Sphaerocharis* differs from *Neochlamysini* by the fused and bifid claws, and the deeply notched eyes. It represents an independent evolutionary trend, not connected with *Neochlamysini*.

Neochlamys strigicollis Jacoby

The species was doubtfully recorded from Barzil. I have examined one specimen in the British Muselm collection, which agrees completely with the type in the Bowditch collection (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard); it bears the following locality label: South Africa, Cape Province, Mossel Bay, Oct. 1921, R. E. Turner leg.

Xenoomorphus Monrós

Four species of this interesting ethiopic genus are here described as new.

Xenoomorphus draconianus new species (fig. 1)

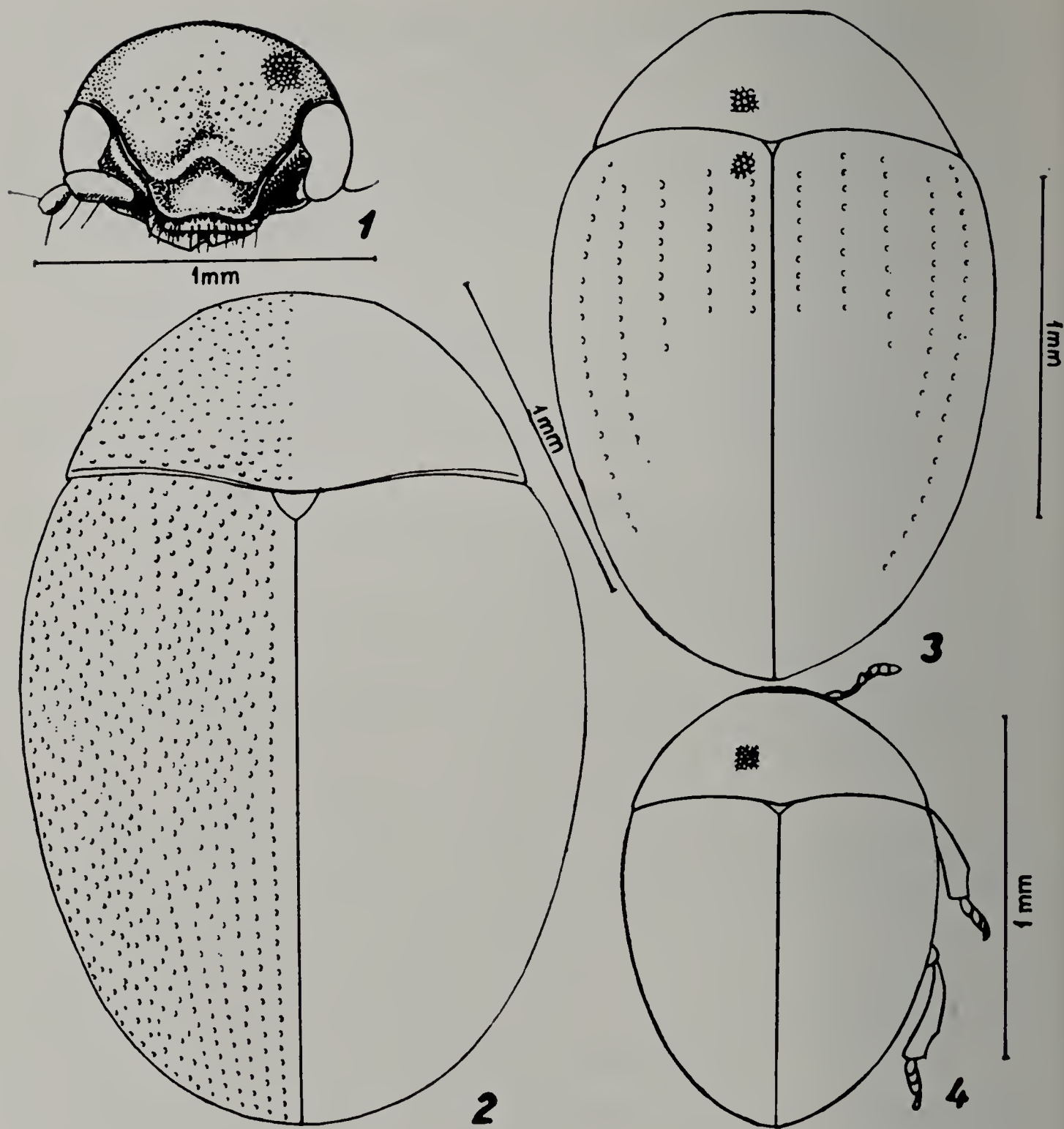
South Africa, Natal, Van Reenen, Drankensberg, 1-22/1/1927, R. E. Turner leg., 1 holotype in British Museum.

2.1 mm long; 1.6 mm broad at base of elytra.

Elongate oval. Pitch black, unicolorous. Antennae yellow, darkened towards tip. Ventral surface with long yellowish pilosity.

Head with a shallow triangular excavation between eyes, separated from the depressed clypeus by a transverse ridge. Internal border of eyes with a narrow but rather deep sulcus. Anterior margin of clypeus roundly emarginate. Surface of head delicately reticulate, interocular area with sparse small punctures.

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Explanation to figures

- 1.—Head of *Xenoomorphus draconianus* n. sp., holotype. The reticulation indicated on top of right eye. 2.—*X. gingindhlovuanus* n. sp., dorsal aspect of holotype. 3.—*Oomorphus* (*Histerogaster*) *caledonicus* n. sp., dorsal aspect of holotype, with reticulation indicated on pronotum and scutellar region of left elytron. 4.—*O. (H.) microbius* n. sp., dorsal aspect of holotype with reticulation indicated on pronotum only.

Pronotum and elytra with small and sparse punctures, irregularly arranged.

This species approaches *X. bicornutus* because of its excavated head; it can be distinguished easily by the lacking conical projections on the clypeus.

Xenoomorphus cavifrons new species

Mozambique, Zambesi, Brandshaw leg. in coll. Fry, 1 holotype in British Museum, 1 paratype in coll. Monrós, ex British Museum.

2 mm long: 1.2 mm broad at base of elytra.

Shape and color as foregoing.

Head with a relatively deep subcircular excavation before eyes, separated from clypeus by a sharp ridge which is depressed medially.

Remaining characters as preceding species, from which it differs also by the shorter and sparser ventral pubescence.

Xenoomorphus gingindhlovuanus new species (fig. 2)

South Africa, S. Zululand, Gingindhlovu, V/1926, R. E. Turner leg.; holotype and 5 paratypes in British Museum; 5 paratypes in coll. Monrós, ex British Museum.

1.7 x 1.2 mm to 2.2 x 1.4 mm.

Shape elongate, oval. Color pitch black ventrally, as well as on antennae and legs; dorsal surface with greenish reflections.

Head regularly and moderately convex, without impressions. Surface covered with small punctures.

Punctures of pronotum identical with those of head. Elytra with irregular punctuation, rather dense and deep and tending to form rows on apical region.

X. gingindhlovuanus differs from the known species of this genus by the absence of cephalic impressions, the black antennae and the small but distinct punctuation of head and pronotum, which is larger on the elytra and tends to be regularly arranged on its apical portion.

Xenoomorphus innominatus new species

South Africa, Cape Province, George, 27/VI-1/VII/1920, R. E. Turner leg., 1 holotype in British Museum; Cape Province, Ceres, XI/1925, 1 paratype R. E. Turner leg. in coll. Monrós, ex British Museum.

1.8 x 1 mm.

Shortly oval, convex. Color uniformly pitch black.

Similar to preceding, but somewhat shorter and more convex, head reticulated and without punctures. Pronotum and elytra with irregular small punctures, rather dense and similar on both regions.

Ernopus Brèthes

This genus was described as *Eumolpinae*; *Oyarzuna* Bechyne described in the same subfamily but belonging to the *Lamprosomatinae* is a synonym. I have examined the type of *Ernopus porteri* Brèthes in the Brèthes collection (Buenos Aires) and specimens of *Oyarzuna splendida* (Philippi) belonging to the Museum G. Frey (Tutzing) and identified by Bechyne; they are completely identical. The correct name of the species is:

Ernoporos splendidus (Philippi) new combination
Oomorphus Curtis

Five new species are here described, belonging to the subgenus *Histerogaster* Monrós.

Oomorphus (Histerogaster) caledonicus new species (fig. 3)

New Caledonia: Rhoo, Houadou River, 7/XI/1914 P. D. Montague leg., holotype, 1 paratype in Brit. Mus.; 2 paratypes in coll. Monrós, ex British Museum—Bâ Bay, 12/VII/1914, P. D. Montague leg. 1 paratype in British Museum.

1.6 x 0.9 mm to 1.9 x 1.0 mm.

Oval, convex, shining. Color of ventral surface and legs pitch black; dorsally with greenish reflections, more or less darkened. Antennae yellow, darkened towards apex.

Head with eyes kidney-shaped, their facets coarse. Interocular space somewhat swollen, clypeus declivous. Surface lacking sutures or depressions. Antennae relatively long and slender, of normal structure. Head surface minutely reticulate, reticulation visible under high power only (50 x).

Pronotum with similar reticulation.

Elytral punctures arranged in rows but very superficial so that it is difficult to observe them on the disc; reticulation as on pronotum.

Intercoxal prosternum subquadrate, its posterior angles rounded; podal excavations deep; claws divaricate.

Oomorphus (Histerogaster) microbius new species (fig. 4)

New Caledonia, Mt. St. Arago 14/VII/1914, P. D. Montague leg. 1 holotype in British Museum—Gondé, 12/XI/1914, P. D. Montague leg. 1 paratype in coll. Monrós, ex Brit. Mus.

1.2 x 0.8 mm.

Similar to foregoing but smaller and uniformly black. Antennae yellow, darkened toward apex. Elytra without punctures and without visible reticulation.

Oomorphus (Histerogaster) alvarengai new species

Brasil, Piauí, Terezina, 18/VIII/1953, 1 holotype coll. Alvarenga; 2 paratypes in coll. Monrós, ex M. Alvarenga.

2.1 x 1.4 mm.

Elongate oval, unicolorous pitch black; hairs golden yellow, abundant on legs and ventral surface. Wings present and normal.

Surface of head smooth, delicately reticulate. Pronotum with a minute reticulation. Elytra more strongly shining than rest of dorsal surface; punctures regular and moderately deep. Tibiae carinate on external border.

This small species differs from the others of the subgenus mainly by the elytra being more brilliant than the pronotum.

Oomorphus (Histerogaster) amazonicus new species

Brasil, Amazonas, Tefé, 1 holotype in coll. Monrós.

2. x 1.5 mm.

Differs from the preceding by the more elongate shape and the densely punctured pronotum.

Head as in *O. alvarengai*. Pronotum with relatively dense and deep, uniformly distributed but not regularly arranged punctuation. Elytra as in *alvarengai*.

Oomorphus (Histerogaster) goiasensis new species

Brasil, Goias, Jatai, 1 holotype in coll. Monrós.

2.5 x 1.4 mm.

Elongate oval, very slightly larger and more robust than preceding species. Black, dorsal surface with dark olivaceous reflections, slightly more intense on head.

Head minutely reticulate, smooth; clypeus with a deep rounded emargination. Pronotum minutely reticulate, moderately shining. Elytra with normal punctures and olivaceous reflections more conspicuous towards sides and apex.

The olivaceous head and the minutely reticulate pronotum distinguish this species from its allies.

Lamprosomoides new genus

Type of genus: *L. monticola* new species

General shape as in *Oomorphus*, but claws as in *Lamprosoma*.

Of small size. Antennae longer than intercoxal prosternum, their shape as in *Ormorphus* and relatives, viz. segment VIII narrower than adjoining ones. Last tarsal segment surpassing more than half the length of the lobes of III. Eyes angularly and deeply notched on inner border; interocular area smooth. Claws appendiculate and divergent, as in *Lamprosoma*.

Lamprosomoides monticola new species

Colombia, Alto de las Cruces, 2,200 m. holotype in coll. Monrós.

2 x 1.5 mm.

Shortly oval, compact and convex. Color pitch black; basal segment of antennae, head, dorsal surface, and ventral surface of legs (except tarsi) golden greenish, not very shining on head due to a minute reticulation.

Interocular area smooth; clypeus with a regular and not very deep rounded emargination. Surface delicately reticulate and with sparse and not very deep punctures.

Pronotum with moderately dense and deep punctures, irregularly but uniformly arranged.

Elytra with regular rows of punctures, which are difficult to observe owing to the presence of accessory punctures, almost identical in size and density, irregularly distributed over the whole surface.

This species resembles several green species of *Lamprosoma* on account of its shining green color, the general shape and the structure of the claws, but it differs from them by the small shape and the different structure of the antennae.